

mines. It recovers the copper and precious metals from the anodes at the electrolytic copper refinery of its subsidiary, Canadian Copper Refiners Limited, Montreal East.

During the review period Noranda Mines Limited contracted to bring the Macdonald Mines Limited property in the Noranda area into operation at a daily rate of 1,500 tons for the production of pyrite, zinc and sulphur. West Macdonald Mines Limited, as the new Company is known, is expected to be ready for production by the end of 1955. The ore will be treated in a new \$5,000,000 plant to be built at Noranda. Noranda is building a sulphur-iron plant near Welland, Ont., to treat pyrite ore from the Horne mine and concentrates from the West Macdonald property. The Company is also building a plant at the Horne mine in which by-product pyrite will be pelletized for shipment to the Welland plant.

Copper production also comes from the copper-zinc ores of Waite Amulet Mines Limited, Quemont Mining Corporation Limited, Normetal Mining Corporation Limited, and East Sullivan Mines Limited all in western Quebec. In southern Quebec it comes from the zinc-lead-copper Suffield property of Ascot Metals Corporation Limited in the Eastern Townships and the copper-pyrite-zinc mine of Weedon Pyrite and Copper Corporation Limited in Wolfe County. A new producer, Quebec Copper Corporation Limited, commenced production in February 1954 on the former Huntingdon property in the Eastern Townships. In Montmagny County, Eastern Metals Corporation Limited proceeded with the underground exploration of its nickel-copper property. The Company plans to construct a 1,500-ton capacity concentrator. An associate company, Eastern Smelting and Refining Company Limited, was formed in May 1953 to construct and operate a smelter at Chicoutimi for the treatment of nickel and copper concentrates, a substantial quantity of which is to come from the operations of Eastern Metals Corporation.

The long-awaited production of copper and gold from the Chibougamau area began in December 1953 from the 400-ton mill of Opemiska Copper Mines (Quebec) Limited. Much exploratory and development work has been carried out in the area since access to it was provided in the form of a highway from St. Felicien on the west side of Lake St. John a few years ago. Among the companies active in the area are Campbell Chibougamau Mines Limited, which is expected to start production in 1955 from a 1,700-ton mill, and Chibougamau Explorers Limited, which is doing extensive development work on its property.

Hydro-electric power is expected to reach the Chibougamau area by 1955 and a Bill authorizing the construction by the Canadian National Railways of a 294-mile railway line into the area was passed in the House of Commons in May 1954. The railway, estimated to cost \$35,000,000, will run from Beattyville, near Barraute, northeast to Chibougamau and then southeast to St. Felicien.

Large new tonnages of copper ore are in the offing of Quebec's metal production as a result of the headway made by Gaspé Copper Mines Limited in preparing its \$40,000,000 copper project in Gaspé peninsula for production early in 1955. The new industry is taking shape about 60 miles west of the town of Gaspé where the Company has outlined an estimated 70,000,000 tons of low-grade copper ore. Milling, which will be at a daily rate of 6,500 tons, the largest initial milling rate in Canadian mining history, is to start late in 1954 and will be followed a few months later by smelter production at the rate of 125 tons of copper anodes daily. A town, Murdochville, named after J. G. Murdoch, President of the parent company,